

Hail to the Chief | To Soldiers, From the Heart | Outfitting the Warfighters

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

December 2004  
[www.soldiersmagazine.com](http://www.soldiersmagazine.com)

# Soldiers



## A New Way to Train



**Cover** Story — Page 20

U.S. Army, Europe, Soldiers recently trained with Bulgarian troops during Exercise Bulwark '04.

— Arthur McQueen

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Soldiers | December 2004 | Vol



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To the Soldiers of U.S. Army, Europe, realistic training is a way of life and a major component of their mission. For more on the dynamic training taking place in USAREUR, see Arthur McQueen's piece on Exercise Bulwark '04.

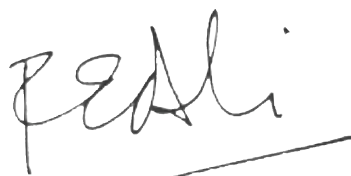
The tradition of Army musicians is a long and proud one. This month Heike Hasenauer gives us a glimpse into their professionalism and dedication in her piece "Europe's Musical Ambassadors."

The first of the Army's newest type of chapel opened recently at Fort Belvoir, Va., one of the Army's most historic and picturesque posts. Jennifer Brennan gives us a look inside the beloved older building the newer facility replaced.

Don't miss our look into one of the great honors any Soldier can have — participation on the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee.

As we do every month, we depict our great Soldiers and their service in our monthly photo essay sections "On Point" and "Sharp Shooters." Be sure not to miss them!

All of us at *Soldiers* wish you and your family the very best this holiday season — and be safe!



Rob Ali  
Editor in Chief

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation	
1. Publication Title	<i>Soldiers</i>
2. Issue Date	December 2003
3. Issue Frequency	Monthly
4. Annual Subscription Price	\$12.00
5. Number of Issues Published Annually	12
6. Annual Circulation	10,000
7. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run)	10,000
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### The Official U.S. Army Magazine

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Printing: Gateway Press, Inc., Louisville, Ky

**Soldiers** (ISSN 0093-8440) is published monthly by the Army Chief of Public Affairs to provide the Total Army with information on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of the Army. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

■ **Send submissions and correspondence to Editor, Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Suite S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581.** Phone: DSN 656-4486 or commercial 703-806-4486, or send e-mail to [soldiers@belvoir.army.mil](mailto:soldiers@belvoir.army.mil).

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■ All uncredited photographs by U.S. Army.

■ **Military distribution:** From the U.S. Army Distribution Operations Facility, 1655 Woodson Road, St. Louis, MO 63114-6181, in accordance with Initial Distribution Number (IDN) 050007 subscription requirements submitted by commanders.

■ The Secretary of the Army has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business as required by law of the department. Funds for printing this publication were approved by the Secretary of the Army in accordance with the provisions of Army Regulation 25-30. Library of Congress call number: U1.A827.

■ Periodicals postage paid at Fort Belvoir, VA, and additional mailing offices.

■ **Individual subscriptions:** Subscriptions can be purchased through the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

■ **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Fort Belvoir address above.

## Soldiers

Recipient of Awards of Magazine Excellence



Thomas Jefferson Awards  
Outstanding Flagship  
Publication 2004



Silver and Bronze  
Anvil Awards  
2002 and 2003



NAGC Blue Pencil  
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2003



## More Than Training

I JUST got through reading your October story "Training Troops for Deployment," which dealt with our 75th Division and its mission at Fort Hood, Texas. Excellent article! These Soldiers perform an important mission but rarely get any credit for what they do.

I'd like to add that we do more than just train National Guard units. We're also heavily involved in homeland security, military support to civil authorities, disaster response, chemical-biological training for state teams and a host of other missions.

**LTC Kirk D. Frady**  
via e-mail

## Crystals, Not Tombstones

THE October issue of Soldiers was excellent and informative, as usual.

The article on Army Materiel Command's engineers and scientists was very well done. As one of those civilian engineers, I like to see our support of the guys (or gals) in green (or tan) get a little recognition.

But the hi-tech-looking photo on page 13 seems to be mislabeled. The term "epitaphy" would be the study of the short phrases put on tombstones. The machine in the picture, however, is much more likely doing the process of "epitaxy," which is the growth of one kind of crystal on some other kind of crystal.

Yeah, it probably only matters to engineers who already know what epitaxy is!

**William Ellis**  
via e-mail

*WE are deeply committed to serious epitaphy, since we always like to have the final word. But thanks for the clarification.*

## Mountain Miracles

I READ with great interest your October article "Miracles on a Mountain-side," having volunteered part-time the

past three winters with Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra.

For disabled athletes on the West Coast, DSES offers a great opportunity for recreation at a top-tier ski resort at Mammoth Mountain, Calif., and volunteering is an incredibly rewarding experience.

Hats off to the OIF and OEF veterans for having the courage and perseverance to adapt to their new challenges, and to the veteran agencies and people of Colorado for sponsoring this program.

**SPC Ryan Hoffman**  
via e-mail

## ACH Clarification

I AM the program manager for SOF warrior protection, and I believe I may have been incorrectly quoted in the October article "On the Cutting Edge of Technology."

Regarding the Advanced Combat Helmet's ballistic performance, the quotation "...field testing has proven that it provides protection against AK-47 rifle fire..." is misleading and implies that testing was conducted to validate ACH protection against AK-47 threats. The quotation should read "...field experience has shown that it provides a level of protection against AK-47 rifle fire..."

While several combat cases have documented the ACH stopping AK-47 rifle fire from various ranges and angles of impact saving lives, no formal testing has been performed on the ACH to determine the parameters (i.e. impact velocity) for protection against AK-47 bullets.

Therefore, it cannot be concluded that the ACH provides reliable protection against AK-47 rifle fire. Thank you for clarifying this important point.

**Fred Chan**  
via e-mail

## Battle Dates

ON page 42 of the September issue the Revolutionary War attack of the

submarine *Turtle* and the Battle of Brandywine were erroneously identified as occurring on Sept. 7, 1775.

The *Turtle's* (attempted) attack took place on Sept. 7, 1776, and the Battle of Brandywine was fought on Sept. 11, 1777.

In September 1775 the Continental Army was parked around Boston, hemming in General Gage's British forces. The U.S. Navy wasn't established until Nov. 28, 1775.

**SFC Mark Regensburger**  
via e-mail

## Which Rangers?

YOUR September article "Back to Normandy" was great, except that the caption on page 46 under the Pointe du Hoc photo should state that Point du Hoc was captured by the 2nd Ranger Battalion, since there is no 22nd Ranger Bn.

**SFC Daniel S. Masessa**  
via e-mail

## Adoption Support

THE August article "Supporting Adoptive Parents" was very well written and represented all sides of the adoption possibilities for American military members here in Europe.

I thought I'd let you know that there has been a change in sponsorship. After 16 years, the American Red Cross found it couldn't support adoption education, and we have been well-received by the Air Force Chapel outreach programs. The public will find no changes, just a change in the sponsoring organization.

**Jeanie Veith**  
via e-mail



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## ◀ JAPAN

Special-operations Soldiers assigned to Torii Station on Okinawa perform a high-altitude, low-opening (HALO) parachute jump from a Marine Corps CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter.

— Photo by PH3 Kaitlyn Rae Vargo, USN



## ▲ Afghanistan

SSG Damian George, SPC Robert Binder and SPC Shaun Miller demonstrate the proper technique for stemming a civil disturbance to members of the Afghan National Police during a recent training exercise in riot control. All three Soldiers are members of the 58th Military Police Company from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

— Photo by SFC Darren D. Heusel



## ▲ Kazakhstan

SFC Phil Marquez of the Arizona Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 180th Field Artillery, explains how to properly move as a squad in a combat environment to a group of Kazakh soldiers during team and squad movement training drills at the Kazakhstan Army Military Institute.

— Photo by SPC Alex Licea



## ◀ Iraq

SGT Jesse Akins, a gunner and ammunition team chief with the 2nd Infantry Division's Battery B, 1st Bn., 37th FA, adjusts the aim of an M-198 155mm howitzer during a live-fire training exercise at Forward Operating Base Endurance.

— Photo by SPC Aaron Ritter

## ▼ Djibouti

Soldiers rush into position to secure the perimeter during an exercise in the African nation. The Soldiers are assigned to the Guam Army National Guard's 1st Bn., 294th Inf. Regt., and are deployed in support of the Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa.

— Photo by Cpl. Jeff M. Nagan, USMC



## ▲ Iraq

SPC Genevieve Siegler holds a young Iraqi boy during a 29th Signal Bn. school supply distribution mission in the village of Al Bu Hassan. The battalion sponsored the construction of the school and returned at the beginning of the school year to distribute donated supplies.

— Photo by CPT Cathy Wilkinson



# Hail to t

Preparations for the inauguration began more than a year ago when the first Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guard members started filtering into temporary offices at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.

**T**HE world will watch as the president of the United States is inaugurated on the steps of the nation's Capitol Jan. 20. The procession will appear seamless, but to the 710 military members assigned to Joint Task Force–Armed Forces Inaugural Committee, the event will culminate months of hard work.

JTF-AFIC is a joint-service organization established every four years to coordinate Department of Defense support with civilian planning committees. Military support is primarily ceremonial, occurring at such events as gala parties, dinners, the swearing-in ceremony and inaugural parade.

“We have an important and challenging mission, and with all great missions come great responsibilities,” said Air Force Brig. Gen. Duane J. Lodrige, deputy commander of JTF-

SSG Christine Thompson is a member of JTF-AFIC.



# he Chief

Story by SSG Christine Thompson



The military's support to the presidential inauguration includes the presence of several military bands at the swearing-in ceremony.



▲ Thousands of spectators gather to watch the parade, which features military units and bands, as well as floats.



▲ Among the Soldiers taking part in the inaugural ceremonies will be gunners from the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard).



Staff Sgt. Carrie Hinson, USAF

▲ SGM Kelvin Hill, drum major with the U.S. Military Academy Band, renders a salute during the 54th presidential inaugural on Jan. 20, 2001.

AFIC. “The entire world will be watching the nonpartisan celebration of our democratic values.”

Preparations for the event began more than a year ago when the first Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guard members started filtering into temporary offices at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C. The first arrivals established computer networks and acquired equipment ranging from phones to vehicles.

“Planning for this inauguration began nearly 15 months before the

actual ceremony,” said COL John Spinelli, chief of staff. “Early on, the focus was on establishing a sound organization with the capability to conduct detailed planning and coordination.”

Directorates under JTF-AFIC are in charge of military personnel, operations, logistics, communications, ceremonies, legal and public affairs, said Spinelli.

Plans made by JTF-AFIC must be flexible, however. The bulk of decision-making authority rests in the

hands of the Presidential Inaugural Committee, which is assigned after the election. The PIC is a private, nonprofit committee appointed by the president-elect to organize, plan and execute most events during the 10-day inaugural period.

“The PIC is one of our ‘customers’ for ceremonial support,” said Spinelli. “They ask us for military support, and we provide support consistent with DOD policy guidance.”

The JTF-AFIC Ceremonies Division plans, coordinates and executes joint-service ceremonial support for events at the U.S. Capitol and the White House.

“Ceremonies Division is actually the part of JTF-AFIC that executes the mission,” said Army MAJ Gray Cockerham, the division’s logistics coordinator.

“We play the biggest role, in the sense of getting the public-viewed elements of military support in place,” said Coast Guard Capt. Donald Grant, the ceremonies division’s deputy director. “In the end, all the directorates within JTF-AFIC support us, and we in turn are supporting all of the elements that come in from outside.”

The Ceremonies Division is



- ▲ Mounted Soldiers rehearse their role in the inaugural parade. Horses and their riders are an integral part of each inauguration.
- The military provides drivers to chauffeur VIPs to the various inaugural events. Military police also escort the primary participants and help control traffic along the parade route.
- ▼ Members of the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee stand-in for the president-elect, vice president-elect and their spouses during rehearsals held over several days leading up to the actual event.



Staff Sgt. William Gomez Jr.

responsible for the color guard at the president's arrival in the East Capitol, the Marine Band, the ushers, the street cordons and coordinating support elements for the inaugural parade.

The JTF-AFIC works alongside

the FBI, U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Park Police to ensure security is provided to dignitaries and in areas surrounding inaugural events.

"Security considerations in this post-9/11 environment are certainly

our top concern," said Spinelli. "We must ensure our planned ceremonial-support activities are fully integrated into all security planning for this inaugural."

JTF-AFIC also coordinates closely with the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, a committee of senators and representatives that executes the swearing-in ceremony.

"I always tell everybody that if you were going to equate the inaugural committee to a football team, we're not the players," Grant said. "We're the coaches, the trainers — all the support elements that ensure the players have all the tools and support they need to give the best light to the military for the inauguration." 🇺🇸

SFT Cory Montgomery





# Europe's MUSICAL Ambassador

Story by Heike Hasenauer

**W**HEN Soldiers of the 1st Armored Division Band and 76th U.S. Army Band returned to their home stations in Germany after nearly a year in Iraq, the U.S. Army, Europe, Band and Chorus from Schwetzingen, Germany, welcomed them home.

The roughly 120 Soldiers of the combined band and chorus represent

the Army's largest musical organization outside the United States, said SGM Joel Joyner, the band's enlisted leader.

In fiscal year 2003 its members gave 198 performances in some 15 countries, said bandleader LTC Thomas Palmatier, a 26-year Army band veteran.

"As the Army's premier band in Europe, we perform for kings and





pop-rock group, a Dixieland band, a jazz combo, and brass and woodwind quintets.

Collectively, they appeal to a wide range of audiences and age groups, said Joyner, who leads the jazz ensemble “Soldiers of Swing.”

The ensemble’s repertoire includes music from the golden days of jazz, when it was played by big-band greats like Glenn Miller, said Joyner, who has performed at world-renowned jazz festivals in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

◀ Members of the U.S. Army, Europe, Band and Chorus pose on a bridge at their home station of Schwetzingen, Germany. The band gave 198 performances in 2003, visiting 15 countries.

▼ The band includes a 65-piece concert and marching band, a 35-member ceremonial group, a 19-piece jazz ensemble, a pop-rock group, a Dixieland band, a jazz combo, and brass and woodwind quintets.

The band’s rock group focuses on music targeted toward younger Soldiers. The smaller jazz combo is ideal for official social occasions. And the ceremonial band, which performs at military functions, is the band’s “bread and butter,” Joyner said, as ceremonial events are always taking place somewhere in Europe.

Something magical happens when the band performs in former Eastern-bloc nations, Palmatier said. “We may be the first Americans some of the people have ever met. When we go there, our presence puts a human face on whatever stereotypes people have about Americans.”

One of Palmatier’s most memorable performances was in May 2003 in the Czech Republic, when the band played in the hall where the Czech National Orchestra performs. The occasion marked the day American forces liberated the western territories

All photos courtesy USAREUR Band & Chorus

# adors

presidents,” he said. The band played for President George W. Bush’s visit to Normandy on Memorial Day and has played for the prime minister of Poland, among many other dignitaries.

“Several groups within the band are often out performing at the same time,” Palmatier said. Those include the 65-piece concert and marching bands, a 35-member ceremonial group, a 19-piece jazz ensemble, a





▲ Celebrity performers, including great names in jazz, sometimes perform with elements of the USAREUR Band.

of Czechoslovakia, and the Soviet army liberated Prague at the end of World War II.

"The Czechs are most passionate about classical music," Palmatier said. "And they're most discriminate; Europeans expect that Americans can play only jazz and some Elvis Presley tunes. We held our breaths. When shouts of 'Bravo' rang out from the crowd, it was a magnificent experience."

The USAREUR band supports all functions of the USAREUR commander, and in the absence of two direct-support U.S. Army bands in Europe, which are currently deployed to Iraq, it has taken on their missions in USAREUR as well, Joyner said.

Those bands' overriding purpose is to boost the morale of Soldiers in war and even "soften the blow of war," Joyner said. The USAREUR band gives deploying Soldiers a rousing send off and welcomes them back when they return.

Most of the band members hold music degrees from highly regarded universities and conservatories, Joyner

said. They have all earned their positions in the band through special auditions, and most previously performed professionally or taught music before enlisting in the Army.

"Chorus members are also selected through a rigorous audition process; in Europe, it's a 30-day audition," Palmatier said. "Those who don't read music have to prove they have a good ear and can learn the tunes quickly, because they may have to learn 100 songs in a year, along with the choreography.

"I get a chuckle watching 'American Idol,'" said Palmatier, "because only about one or two percent of

All the band members have earned their positions in the band through special auditions, and most previously performed professionally or taught music before enlisting in the Army.



▲ Band members routinely rehearse, whether at home station or on one of their frequent tours.

contestants on that show would make it into the chorus." Selection is based not only on musical talent, but demeanor and appearance.

Most Soldiers who join the Army to be in the band make it a career, said Palmatier. For members of the chorus, it's a bit different.

Band tours are typically three-year assignments and, while overseas, bandsmen can apply for foreign-service extensions. It's not unusual for them to be able to complete 20 to 30 years' service in various Army bands, said Joyner, a 26-year veteran trumpeter.

By comparison, members of the chorus sign on for only two years and typically must then return to their primary MOSs, Palmatier said. Some of them do go on to join the U.S. Army Soldiers' Show Chorus or choruses of the U.S. Army Band or U.S. Army Field Band.

SGT Megan Hawes is a network-switching operator by military



► The “Rhine River Ramblers” Dixieland group poses for visitors following one of its performances.



occupation. But for now, she’s a soprano in the chorus, singing pop tunes of the 1960s and 1970s, as well as current tunes. She spends roughly three hours a day rehearsing her music and another three hours practicing dance routines.

Saxophone player SPC T.J. Jackson has been in the USAREUR band for about two years. He got in after completing three auditions at the Army Element School of Music in Norfolk, Va., where band members undergo their advanced individual training.

Jackson started playing sax when he was nine and earned a performing

degree from Elon College in North Carolina. During his senior year he traveled to Germany to play with the University Jazz Band in Munich, and in Salzburg and Vienna, Austria.

“I fell in love with the cities and knew I wanted to come back to play for a paycheck,” he said.

Jackson said he’s participated in more than 150 performances over a one-year period since joining the USAREUR band. And some of the most “exciting performances” have been the military tattoos that draw some 1,500 people to Birmingham, England.

“What we really notice about the

people in Europe is the optimum support – the large crowds that come to hear us play,” Joyner said. “In the States, it’s not quite the same, because there are so many bands.”

Traveling is an added perk, Hawes said. “Most of us never left the States before coming here,” she said. “Now, we’ve been to Poland, Albania and Iraq,” the latter, for only days at a time, due to the band’s “nondeployable” status.

“People look up at us on stage and think, ‘That’s what Americans are like,’” she said. “We make them happy. And that’s the best part of the job for me.” 🇺🇸



▲ Members of the USAREUR Chorus perform for Soldiers at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, in an event sponsored by the Army’s morale, welfare and recreation program.

# Challenging t



▲ Army Reserve CPT Scott Klawon crawls through a pillbox tunnel during the land obstacle course at the U.S. Armed Forces Professional Development and Military Skills Training Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

# he Leader

Story and Photos by  
MSG D. Keith Johnson



“The officers leave here as better leaders and take new and important military skills back to their units. The skills we teach are timeless, and are used every day in the war on terrorism.”

SEVERAL Reserve officers recently had an opportunity to challenge themselves and at the same time prepare for a prestigious military competition at the U.S. Armed Forces Professional Development and Military Skills Training Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

During the first two weeks of training, they perfected their skills in land- and water-confidence courses;

land navigation; rifle and pistol marksmanship; grenade throwing; and combat first aid. Other instruction focused on the laws of war, fitness and nutrition, and mental conditioning.

“This program is a perfect combination of physical and mental conditioning,” said CPT Scott Klawon, an infantry officer from Grand Rapids, Mich. Klawon had originally planned to be a marksmanship instructor at the camp. After arriving, he was persuaded to attend as a competitor.

MSG D. Keith Johnson is the public affairs officer for the U.S. Armed Forces Professional Development and Military Skills Training Center.



▲ CPT Daren O'Day pushes toward the finish line during the land obstacle course. O'Day is an operations officer with the Oklahoma City Recruiting Battalion.

◀ Klawon leaps over one of the hurdles during the land obstacle course.



▲ SSG Jerry Mullen spots as Marine Corps Capt. Craig Ullman fires an M-16A2 rifle during marksmanship training. Mullen is a member of the Army Reserve's 108th Division.



▲ O'Day climbs out of the water at the turn-around point of the water obstacle course.



▲ 2LT Sean Nixon leaps off the balance beam as he nears the end of the land obstacles. Nixon is a rifle platoon leader in the Oregon National Guard.

The training center is staffed by Reserve commissioned officers and NCOs from the various services, who are mobilized each summer to conduct the training.

At the end of the two-week training camp, program officials choose U.S. pentathlon-team members to compete in CIOR, the Confederation of Reserve Officers' inter-allied sporting championship, which is similar to the Olympics.

"For most on the team this is a one-shot deal, and the only competition they'll do with CIOR," said LTC Bob Thompson, who heads CIOR

training. "We at the camp think of CIOR as being similar to the Best Ranger competition. These are Soldiers who train in their spare time to compete in a tough, world-class competition as an additional duty."

During the third week the officers were tested in five events: land- and water-obstacle courses; rifle and pistol marksmanship; and a 10- to 15-kilometer land-orienting course.

"The extraordinary people who come to our training camps call it a

life-changing experience. Our competitors are challenged in ways unfamiliar to them," said Thompson. "CIOR challenges officers mentally, physically and emotionally, and in extreme ways."

"I've been in the Army 15 years, and this is by far the best military training I've ever received," said CPT Larry Gnewuch of the 84th Division, who attended the camp for the first time.

The only two Army National Guard officers in this particular



▲ Klawon crawls under one of the obstacles while negotiating the land obstacle course.



▲ CPT Larry Gnewuch goes over the top of a wall during the land obstacle course. Gnewuch is a member of the Army Reserve's 84th Div.



▲ Klawon plots coordinates at the beginning of the orienteering course.



▲ MSG James Dechert gives shooting pointers to Navy Capt. Shelley Pennington. Dechert is a marksmanship instructor with the shooting team.



▲ CW2 Joanna Williamson plots coordinates during orienteering training. Williamson is a UH-1 helicopter pilot with the Georgia Army National Guard.

rotation said they were enticed to undergo the training based on the good things they'd heard about it.

"This is an amazing program; it really is a great opportunity," said Oregon National Guard 2LT Sean Nixon, a first-time competitor.

The overall program received accolades from all of the participants, but the marksmanship and land navigation portions were especially praised.

"They recruited the best shooters in the country for this," said Gnewuch.

All of the marksmanship instructors are military competition shoot-

ers, and almost all are members of the U.S. Army Reserve Shooting Team. Four out of five of the rifle instructors wear "President's One Hundred" tabs. The coveted tab is awarded to the top 100 competitors in the President's Rifle (or pistol) Match. This match is the first of the national trophy matches held each year at Camp Perry, Ohio.

"This is one of the few military athletic events that increases a Soldier's chance that he'll hit his target in a combat situation," said marksmanship instructor CSM Neal Dickey of the 100th Div.'s 8th Brigade.

"The officers leave here as better leaders and take new and important military skills back to their units. The skills we teach are timeless, and are used every day in the war on terrorism," Thompson said.

Thompson said that the camp has also provided training for deploying Soldiers from U.S. Fifth Army and the 1st Cavalry Div. 🇺🇸



▲ LTC Matt Lissner takes careful aim during marksmanship training. Lissner is a member of the 77th Regional Readiness Command, based in New York.

*Want more info on CIOR?*



Visit the CIOR website at <http://uscior.army.mil>.

## *Interested in Participating in CIOR?*

**A**NYONE interested in participating in the military skills training camp should start by visiting the CIOR Web site, [www.uscior.army.mil](http://www.uscior.army.mil).

Once a Soldier determines he'd like to participate, he should fax or mail a "letter of intent to compete," which is available at the Web site, to CIOR headquarters at Fort Sam Houston and to the CIOR project officer.

The project officers are listed on the Web site, in the point-of-contact section. The letter of intent is used for planning purposes and allows the CIOR staff to keep in touch with potential contestants.

The second step is the application, which is not due until April 15 of the year in which the applicant wishes to participate.

Numerous staff and cadre positions are also available, ranging from medics to administrative and logistics personnel. To review the program's job descriptions, go to its Web site, then complete and fax or mail a staff application to the CIOR headquarters.

Applications are due by April 15 of the year in which you want to participate. However, program staffers recommend that you apply as soon as possible, because positions tend to fill quickly.

— MSG D. Keith Johnson

# USAREUR

## Demonstrates ...

# A New Way to Train

Story and Photos by Arthur McQueen



◀ A Soldier of the Illinois Army Guard's 130th Inf. Regt. joins a Bulgarian soldier in a defensive position.

**N**EARLY 1,000 Soldiers from U.S. Army, Europe's, 18th Engineer Brigade and 7th Army Training Command, and National Guard Soldiers from Illinois, recently joined some 200 Bulgarian troops to strengthen interoperability between the two nations' armies.

The occasion was exercise Bulwark 2004, conducted at Bulgaria's Novo Selo Training Area, a former Soviet training site located four-and-a-half hours from the nation's capital, Sofia.

Bulwark '04 combined new technologies that revolutionize Soldiers' abilities to learn from simulated combat, with the expertise of

7th ATC training teams from Hohenfels and Grafenwöhr, Germany.

The exercise was geared toward helping leaders prepare their units for potential deployment, including deploying maneuver-training-area personnel and equipment to a foreign country, exercise officials said.

LTC Mark Jackson, commander of the Illinois National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment, said: "This training has been different from other training, in that our unit's Headquarters and HQs. Company was able to focus on the major portions of the exercise, rather than the support functions.

"We're training our Soldiers in a number of different squad- and platoon-level tasks," said COL John Sterling, one of the exercise directors.

Sterling said that deploying headquarters

Arthur McQueen works in the U.S. Army, Europe, Public Affairs Office in Heidelberg, Germany.

The exercise was geared toward helping leaders prepare their units for potential deployment, including deploying maneuver-training-area personnel and equipment to a foreign country.





▲ A member of Company A, 2nd Bn., 130th Inf., guides in a helicopter using hand signals and purple smoke during Exercise Bulwark 2004 in Bulgaria's Novo Selo Training Area.



▲ SPC Andrew Atchie of the 2nd Bn., 130th Inf., prepares to repel an opposing force “attack” during the exercise.

“My Soldiers need to know how to recognize various types of potential attacks and how to react to different situations.”

personnel to Bulgaria helped to train Soldiers in expeditionary techniques, including arriving at a new location, establishing the basics for sustained operations, and then training a force before moving it on to accomplish a mission.

Before the end of the Cold War, “many of the Army units based in Europe for more than a half-century were placed where we thought we would have the ‘big fight,’” Sterling said.

Now Army officials know that wherever Soldiers are

stationed — that includes forward-deployed forces in Europe — they’re going to have to move to the mission. “This exercise allows us to practice that,” Sterling said.

Through exercise scenarios, participating units practiced convoy operations, forced-entry techniques and medical evacuation.

“There is a five-day progression of scenarios, from team level up to entire platoons working with outside assets,” said MAJ Mark Dotson of the Combat Maneuver Training Center in Hohenfels.



▲ 1SG Raymond Supan moves forward against unknown “attackers” who have halted his convoy.

Observer-controllers, including SFC William Benda, look for junior-leader initiative, so if a leader is killed in combat the junior Soldier can carry out the commander's orders, Benda said.

Observer-controllers try to induce as much stress in these Soldiers as they can, Benda said, to help prepare them for the real-life stress they'll be faced with in Iraq and Afghanistan.

CPT Shawn Morelli of the 18th Engr. Bde. decided to let her Soldiers have a taste of leadership under stress by temporarily relinquishing her leadership role to play one of the Soldiers in a convoy scenario.

"Convoy operations are critical; we do them every day downrange, and different things can happen," she said. "My Soldiers need to know how to recognize various types of potential attacks and how to react to different situations."

SFC Stewart McGlockling directed 130th Inf. Soldiers to simulate a rocket-propelled grenade attack on the convoy, to create some instructive chaos.

The attack went as planned and left Morelli on the



▲ Convoys of U.S. vehicles drove through real Bulgarian towns to add to the realism of the exercise.

ground, "mortally wounded."

"This training is different, and hard, but that's what it's supposed to be," said PFC Leilani Silo. "I wish they did this in basic training."

"This was the first training event for the 18th Engr. Bde.," Morelli said of the convoy scenario, "and I was proud of how they reacted. They kept going, even when they were tired. Everyone learned the importance of communication and teamwork."

In an after-action review the Soldiers were able to see how well they did, courtesy of the latest in technology, the Deployable Instrumentation System – Europe.

DISE resembles a video game, but in the deadly serious business of training Soldiers for combat. It identifies the location of each individual Soldier, vehicle and weapon on the battlefield, and tracks Soldiers' real-time movements and actions with weapons.

Additionally, the system identifies types and locations of wounds, and monitors treatments and the lack of treatments. At the same time, it renders the Soldier's weapon inoperative if his wounds would prevent him from using his weapon.

Each Soldier can be tracked individually in the computer replay, which reveals his status and position, plus the number of shots he's fired.

Besides lauding the benefits of the scenario-driven exercise and DISE, Sterling said Bulwark '04 gave Soldiers the opportunity to foster a closer relationship with the Bulgarian army and Bulgaria's ministry of defense. ■



▲ PV2 Zachary Hopkins is "medically evacuated" from the Novo Selo Training Area after having been "wounded" during an engagement with OPFOR troops.

"This training is different, and hard, but that's what it's supposed to be. I wish they did this in basic training."

# To **Soldiers**, From



# m the Heart

Story by Beth Reece

*"May no Soldier  
go unloved."*



SGT Michael J. Carden

"Our goal is to keep Soldiers' morale high by showing support back home.

Homesickness is a big problem, and a simple letter from a stranger can help lift spirits."

◀ Gloria Kelley and Selina Desjardins work on an American flag quilt at Kelley's home in Raeford, N.C. The pair have given quilts to more than 160 service members injured in Iraq and Afghanistan.

AMERICA stands by its troops. From billboards praising Soldiers for their bravery to patriotic songs recorded by top musicians, Americans are clearly showing their pride.

"Our goal is to keep Soldiers' morale high by showing support back home. Homesickness is a big problem, and a simple letter from a stranger can help lift spirits," said Beth Cornwell-Friese, who founded the Freedom Fund when her son deployed to Iraq with the 1st Armored Division in 2003.

The need to support those fighting the war on terrorism seems contagious. It's inspired folks who personally know service members, those who live near military installations and even those who've never met a Soldier.

Nonprofit foundations and volunteers across the country continue to seek donations toward programs for Soldiers and their loved ones that ease the emotional and financial burdens of long separations and deployments.

## For Our Soldiers

From phone cards provided by the Veterans of Foreign Wars to care packages from the USO, support from home has shown troops that America backs their efforts in the Middle East.

"Knowing that somebody you don't know took the time to send something to you is really awesome," said the 124th Infantry Regiment's SSG Sanford Dixon, remembering letters and packages he received from Americans during his deployment to Afghanistan last year.

Volunteers from the Soldiers' Angels Foundation labor to the motto "May no Soldier go unloved," sending letters and packages to Soldiers deployed overseas and wounded



SGT Carmen L. Burgess

◀ Country music star John Michael Montgomery gives a spirited rendition of his hit song “Letters From Home” during a concert in the courtyard of the Pentagon.

American-flag quilts to injured Soldiers being treated at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

“Unfortunately, it is necessary for our Soldiers to be fighting in the war on terrorism,” said Desjardins. “We just need to let them know

they are appreciated for the sacrifices they have made for our country.”

Soldiers in military hospitals.

The organization was created in 2003 when SGT Brandon Varn wrote to his mother, Patti Patton-Bader, about his buddies not receiving letters and support from home. Patton-Bader asked friends to write letters — a gesture that has evolved into thousands of volunteers donating services, money and gifts.

“Adopt a Soldier, write a letter, go to your local veterans’ association,” Patton-Bader tells the people she is recruiting, “offer assistance to the family of a deployed Soldier.”

The Freedom Calls Foundation provides free videoconferencing between Soldiers in Iraq and loved ones back home. The foundation enabled SPC Michelle Soto of the California National Guard to “attend” her daughter’s high school graduation. And SSG Shadow Evans exchanged wedding vows via videoconference

with SGT Richard Everton in Durango, Colo.

Concerned about how wounded Soldiers returning home would adjust to the challenges caused by physical disabilities, John Gonsalves of Wareham, Mass., launched Homes for Our Troops. The foundation builds houses equipped with ramps, low counters, and wide doors and hallways for disabled veterans.

The first home will go to SGT Peter Damon of the Massachusetts National Guard, who lost both hands while changing a tire on a Black Hawk helicopter in Iraq. Other homes are currently under construction.


Gloria Kelley of Raeford, N.C., and her friend Selina Desjardins have shown their patriotism by sewing and personally delivering more than 160

## For Loved Ones

Some of the hardships of deployment and battle are visible via daily newscasts from Iraq and Afghanistan. Americans have not forgotten, however, the needs of those left behind.

Sisters Jackie Parris and Janice Sydnor-Evans created the Operation Support Web site to give families of deployed troops easy access to information. The site’s links include e-mail support groups, the American Red Cross, Tricare and more.

To help military families in financial need because of deployments, USA Cares provides food,



“Unfortunately, it is necessary for our Soldiers to be fighting in the war on terrorism. We just need to let them know they are appreciated for the sacrifices they have made for our country.”

"I love Soldiers more than any movie star. I love their bravery, and I love the fact that they're so young and don't even know they're heroes."

round-trip plane fares and even money to cover utilities. And Operation Stephen's Touch was also launched early this year to link grieving families with trained listeners.

For family members left handling day-to-day issues alone, there's Operation Homefront. Chapters around the country have networked with local businesses willing to provide free assistance from mechanics, locksmiths, towing companies, attorneys, plumbers, electricians, movers and others.

Even Soldiers' pets are being cared for, thanks to the Military Pets Foster Project and Operation Noble Foster. Free foster care from volunteer sitters has saved thousands of dogs, cats and birds from abandonment or placement in shelters.

## Comforting Children

Deployments weigh heavily on children, too. Operation Purple has helped calm the anxieties of more than 1,000 children by sending them to free summer camps held in 11 states and Guam.

Ann Flaherty began incorporating Soldiers' pictures onto quilts for children of deployed parents after her 18-month-old grandson showed signs of emotional stress because of his father's deployment. The quilt brought so much comfort to her grandson that Flaherty made others, and expects to make more than 1,500 by year's end.

"The more people hear about Operation Kid Comfort, the more they call and say, 'I want to help with it,'" Flaherty said.

The Armed Services YMCA's Operation Hero works with more than a dozen military installations to help children find the "hero" within.



◀ Callie Oxford, 3, daughter of Southern Illinois Yellow Ribbon Campaign coordinator Amy Oxford, gets into the spirit of packing boxes destined for troops overseas.

▶ Shauna Fleming — who heads a campaign to collect and distribute thank-you notes to service members — poses next to race driver Matt Kenseth's car, which sports a National Military Appreciation Month sticker.



Certified teachers and trained child-care professionals work with 6- to 12-year-old children, nurturing them toward success at school and home.

"If Americans are made aware of the fact that our Soldiers and families need help, they'll do everything they can. For that, America is a beautiful country," said Patton-Bader, who has gone on the radio to solicit support for Soldiers and their families.

"I love Soldiers more than any movie star. I love their bravery, and I love the fact that they're so young and don't even know they're heroes," she said. 🇺🇸



Lists of organizations that support deployed service members and their loved ones can be found at

**[www.defendamerica.mil/](http://www.defendamerica.mil/support_troops.html)**

**[support\\_troops.html](http://support_troops.html)**

and

**[www.usafreedomcorps.gov](http://www.usafreedomcorps.gov)**



Don Wagner

# Requiem for Mount Vernon

Story by Jennifer Brennan

▲ Wooden-frame chapels built during World War II were intended to be temporary structures, but often lasted decades.

**W**EDDINGS, baptisms and funerals have been held at Mount Vernon Chapel at Fort Belvoir, Va., for more than a half-century. It's a place where people have long celebrated life and mourned its passing.

The old World War II-era chapel, distinguished as such by its modest white wooden frame, is to be demolished to make room for a parking lot adjacent to a new housing area.

Mount Vernon opened in 1941, as did many of the Army's chapels, as a place of worship for Soldiers who

lived in the barracks. Gradually, civilian employees who worked at the post joined the Soldiers at religious services. Many types of meetings and celebrations were hosted at the chapel, and it became too small.

When Fort Belvoir's North Post Chapel was recently completed, it consumed three smaller chapels on post, and became the first new permanent chapel built by the Army since 1993.

Some 100 old wooden chapels still exist Armywide. They, too, will eventually be replaced by the Army's new standard chapels, to be built to three designs meant to accommodate more people and serve all denominations.

## Chapel History

Most often used for Roman Catholic services, the chapel was for a time called St. Martin's. In the 1970s the name was changed to Mount Vernon Chapel after the nearby estate of President George Washington.

That name more accurately reflected the purpose of the facility — to be used as a place of worship by all faiths, said Libby Trautman, Fort Belvoir Catholic services coordinator.

During World War II congregants Armywide found solace in chapels, said COL Gary Cuncell of the Office of the Chief of Chaplains.

They prayed for loved ones far away, in harm's way — and much like families today, they prayed for each

Jennifer Brennan is a staff writer for the Fort Belvoir Eagle newspaper.



As the Army changed, so did the chapel community, which soon grew from being primarily Soldiers to including young married couples, families with children, and a growing population of retirees and civilian employees.

other, that they could remain strong in very difficult times, he said.

But the World War II-era chapels were designed to be temporary, to be used until war's end. Yet, after millions of Soldiers were demobilized, the chapels continued to be used as the Army's permanent houses of worship, Councill said.

"These cantonment or temporary chapels have become very high-maintenance," said Councill. "They've outlived their usefulness."

"What we have today is primarily a married Army — families with children who want religious education," Councill said. "The old chapels aren't spacious enough to meet the community's fellowship needs."

When the Mount Vernon Chapel comes down, so too will the post's Woodlawn and Gunston chapels. Now, resources and costs of operating the three are directed to just one chapel, Councill said.

## Memories of St. Martin's

For some churchgoers, memories of the old white chapel — however small or insufficient it might have been — are not easily dismissed.

Louise Talbot attended church in the small chapel for 56 years, commuting 40 miles every Sunday from

Warrenton, Va. Even when she developed pneumonia, she found a way to attend Sunday mass.

Retired LTC Charles S. Hymers, 84, has been called the "lifeblood, the heart and soul of this community," said Bishop John J. Kaising of the Archdiocese for the Military Services.

Hymers earned the Chaplain's Award, The Order of Aaron and Hur, years ago for his work for the church and its members.

"It's a heartbreaker," Hymers said the day he attended the final mass in the old chapel. "This is my home away from home."

"It's a bittersweet homecoming for me, because so much of myself is built into this chapel," Kaising said. "We're saying farewell to an old friend."

The people who worshipped here are important, he told the congregation



during the final service. "You are what makes the Archdiocese of the Military live and breathe. It's not the building."

Fort Belvoir's North Post Chapel is the first of several new chapels to be built Armywide, said Councill. All of the new facilities will support more congregations of widely varying sizes and faiths, and will encourage increased family participation. 📌

SFC Antony Joseph



➤ The Army's new standardized chapels are designed to accommodate more people, allow for community growth and serve all denominations.



# Preparing for Catastrophe

Story and Photos by MSG Bob Haskell

A NEW team of Army Guard Soldiers and Air Guard medical personnel, known as CERFP (for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or High-Yield Explosive-Enhanced Response-Force Package), recently demonstrated to a team of Army evaluators they're ready to respond to a potential chemical-agent attack by terrorists targeting a U.S. city with a weapon of mass destruction.

The Missouri National Guard team, commanded by LTC William Johnson, was actually tested two months earlier than originally scheduled, because officials believe that terrorists might have been plotting another catastrophic event in the United States, perhaps to disrupt the presidential election.

The CERFP is trained to help local, state or federal authorities locate, care for and decontaminate casualties suffered in an attack by chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear weapons, or other high-explosive devices.

During the recent evaluation by officials from Fifth Army, the CERFP



▲ A team member scans a "victim" for possible contamination. In the exercise scenario, a crop duster sprayed toxic chemicals over crowds at a county fair.

The CERFP is trained to help local, state or federal authorities locate, care for and decontaminate casualties suffered in an attack by chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear weapons, or other high-explosive devices.

team demonstrated its readiness to quickly care for a large group of people, officials said.

"Everything went great. These guys surprised me. They surprised everyone," said MAJ Rich Ward, chief of the nine-member evaluation team.

Additional new CERFP teams will have at least 104 people when they're fully staffed, and will include an engineer element equipped to locate and extract victims from the rubble of buildings and from vehicles.

Johnson said an engineer unit would likely be added to the Missouri team next year.

MSG Bob Haskell works for the National Guard Bureau Public Affairs Office and is a frequent contributor to Soldiers magazine.



▲ CERFP members wearing protective gear spray and scrub down a “victim” of the attack. The team processed and decontaminated 171 “casualties” in just over two hours.

Twelve state teams have been formed since last September — one for each of the 10 Federal Emergency Management Agency regions, plus two extras. They have been developed, with existing resources, around the Guard’s WMD civil-support teams in California, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington state and West Virginia.

Ten of those 12 teams also underwent evaluation by officials from First and Fifth armies this summer.

While the teams in Hawaii and Washington will be evaluated later, they can be pressed into action if necessary, said National Guard Bureau spokeswoman LTC Kate McHenry.

All of the teams have to show the Army they know their jobs, and the Missouri team more than rose to that challenge, Johnson said.

The Missouri University Fire and Rescue Training Institute and other emergency responders helped to

prepare the team at the Ike Skelton Training Site, Missouri’s National Guard joint headquarters, Johnson said.

The 16 Air Guard physicians, dentists, nurses and technicians joined the Army Guard’s decontamination and security Soldiers to round out the team.

In the exercise scenario, a crop-duster sprayed a highly toxic chemical agent over 67,000 people at a county fair and crashed into the crowd during its second pass. About 45,000 people ran from the area before the local mayor ordered everyone else locked down.

Besides being covered with the spray, people were trampled as they fled the scene or killed or injured by the plane crash. The incident commander called for the CERFP to help triage, care for and decontaminate casualties.

Team members set up a 100-yard decontamination line of 13 tents and

shelters and put on their yellow and tan protective suits, rubber boots, face masks and respirators, with the precision they had learned during a week of training. In 90 minutes, they were ready to receive casualties.

About 50 role players put the team through its paces. The actors keeled over and had to be carried through the decon line. Some of the “victims” suffered broken arms and legs and screamed in agony.

Johnson said his team processed and decontaminated 171 “casualties” in two hours and 11 minutes. That included scanning everyone for chemical and radiological agents.

That number is small compared to the casualties that such a team might be expected to deal with in a real crisis. But it was enough to convince the Army evaluators that the Army and Air Guard personnel know what would be required of them following a terrorist attack, and they would know what to do to save lives. ■



# Retaining Guard Soldiers

Story by MSG Bob Haskell

MSG Bob Cossel has heard his share of negative comments about how the Army National Guard will lose a large number of its Soldiers when they return from their deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere in the world.

But as the senior marketing NCO for the Army National Guard's Strength Maintenance Division, it's his job to help retain the National Guard force.

Cossel recently returned to National Guard headquarters in Northern Virginia after a short stint in Kuwait, where he was a spokesman for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, to explain re-employment rights to reserve-component Soldiers who have been deployed there for a year or more.

"The Army Guard doesn't have to take a hit in its numbers because of the global war on terrorism," Cossel said, "so long as the troops can be convinced that people care about them when they come home."

Keeping people who are already trained and who have already borne arms for their country is just as important as recruiting new blood, Cossel said. "We're pitching the Guard to people who are already in the Guard. If we take care of the people

SFC Tom Roberts



Keeping military skills intact after returning State-side is vital for Guard Soldiers.

we already have, they'll bring us the new recruits we need."

That's key to keeping the Army Guard's strength at the congressionally mandated 350,000, Cossel said.

To that end, he's promoting the following four programs to entice Guard Soldiers to stay in:

- ④ Freedom Salute Campaign;
- ④ Home Front Heroes;
- ④ American Hero Band; and
- ④ Flag Patch Program.

The Freedom Salute Campaign has been in existence since December 2003. Home Front Heroes began in June. And the American Hero Band and Flag Patch initiatives started in September.

The programs recognize the Soldiers, their families, employers and others for their service and sacrifice, Cossel said.

The Freedom Salute Campaign is one of the largest recognition endeavors in the Army Guard's history. It recognizes Guard Soldiers and thanks their spouses, children and employers,

who have shown great support during operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, Guard officials said.

About 100,000 Guard Soldiers who have returned from active duty, and those who have supported them had been recognized by July 1, Cossel said.

"As our demobilizing Soldiers continue returning to their civilian lives, it is critical to their continued involvement in the Guard that they — as well as their families and employers — have a sense of how much they are valued by their nation, community and the Guard," said LTG Roger Schultz, director of the Army National Guard.

Each eligible Soldier receives an encased American flag, a lapel insignia, a commemorative coin and a certificate of appreciation from Schultz and CSM Frank Lever III, the Guard's enlisted advisor.

Each Soldier's spouse receives a lapel insignia, and the Soldiers' children are being given "Future

MSG Bob Haskell works for the National Guard Bureau Public Affairs Office and is a regular contributor to Soldiers magazine.



▲ Thousands of National Guard Soldiers have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, interacting with local people at all levels.

Soldier” footlocker kits that include the “Daring Eagle” board game, “Mission Command” game, trading cards and a comic book.

Each eligible Soldier can also nominate one “center of influence” for outstanding support during his or her mobilization. Someone who was largely responsible for influencing the Soldier may be a supervisor, member of the clergy or a college guidance counselor. He or she can represent a charitable organization, a business or a school that supported the Soldier during a deployment.

More than 100 Soldiers in the District of Columbia Guard’s 547th Transportation Company, their families and their centers of influence were honored during a Freedom Salute ceremony upon the unit’s return after a year of duty in Iraq.

The new Home Front Heroes program focuses on Soldiers’ parents and other family members, and others who have supported the Soldier’s deployments.

“The Army Guard doesn’t have to take a hit in its numbers because of the global war on terrorism, so long as the troops can be convinced that people care about them when they come home.”

The American Hero Bands resemble the wristbands that some people still wear in honor of U.S. service members who are listed as missing in action from the Vietnam War.

“The new bands don’t include name inscriptions, but they honor American heroes who are serving in the Army National Guard,” Cossel said.

The bands are available through the National Guard to



MSG Mike Welsh

▲ Guard units have provided valuable technical expertise in Southwest Asia.

anyone who requests one, said Cossel.

The Flag Patch Program will likewise make thousands of American flag patches available to anyone who would like to sew a flag onto his or her apparel to show support for National Guard troops. 🇺🇸



Additional information about these retention programs is available on the Army National Guard’s Web site [www.virtualarmory.com](http://www.virtualarmory.com).

# Afghan Mortar Mission

Story By SGT Jeremy A. Clawson

WATCHING his team place mortar-aiming stakes, SPC Donald King entered grid coordinates into an M-23 ballistic computer, readying to deploy his team's 60mm mortar. The

SGT Jeremy A. Clawson is with the 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

weapon would cover troops as they moved into action recently during Operation Dragon Tree.

On this mission through the Argandab Valley in south-central Afghanistan, Soldiers of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, moved to search a village. King and his team positioned themselves two

kilometers away to watch areas on both sides of the objective and the ridgeline in the distance.

The mortar team's job is to provide indirect fire support to units as they move across the battlefield.

SPC Matthew Root, the mortar team's gunner, said the mortar's presence is a deterrent to enemy



▲ SPC Matthew Root adjusts his team's mortar during a mission through Afghanistan's Argandab Valley.



forces. “The enemy knows when mortars are providing cover for Soldiers, and they think twice before trying anything,” he said.

“I’ve never been on the receiving end of mortar barrage, but the Taliban fighters probably have and it’s probably not fun,” King said.

It’s not much fun for the mortar

team members, either. Each Soldier moving through the mountainous terrain is laden with equipment, weapons and ammunition.

The gunner usually carries the mortar tube, bipod, sight unit, and usually two or three mortar rounds, Root said. The assistant gunner carries the mortar’s base plate, while more five-pound rounds are divided among the line company fire teams.

The team carries four types of rounds — high-explosive, illumination, infrared-illumination and white-phosphorous.

▲ Root peers through the mortar’s sights while his assistant gunner, PFC Joseph Borgula, adjusts the weapon’s aiming stakes.

The team has participated in numerous combat missions during the war on terror, and they stand ready to strike — from a distance.

Once the team members have set up the mortar, they can respond with supporting fire within seconds of receiving a mission. Ground troops call for fire adjustments, and within three rounds the team can lay a barrage on the target. 🚩



▲ Root carries the 60mm mortar as the team moves to another location. The team members carry the mortar, its base plate and four kinds of ammunition.

➤ SPC Donald King, the mortar-team leader, enters the grid coordinates of the position.



**S**oldiers from the New Jersey and Ohio Army National Guards and the Texas Army Reserve were involved in a variety of operations in support of Exercise New Horizons '03 in Panama. Soldiers built a clinic in Cerro Iglesia, helped in the construction of a school in Lajas Adentro, provided medical support and vaccinated livestock during a medical readiness training exercise in Quebrada Guabo. 🇵🇷



▲ LTC Robert Vicci (left), commander of the New Jersey Guard's 150th Aviation Battalion, and 1LT Joseph Roughneen prepare their UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter for take off from Albrook Airfield, Panama, en route to Chiriqui.



▲ Soldiers of the Ohio Army National Guard's 612th Engineer Battalion build a clinic in the mountain town of Cerro Iglesia.



▲ A family of Guaymi Indians watches as a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter prepares for takeoff from Cerro Iglesia.

▶ MSG Mark Turner of the Army Reserve's Texas-based 994th Medical Detachment vaccinates a pig during a medical readiness training exercise in Quebrada Guabo.



▲ A Guaymi woman waits with her baby to see a doctor at Quebrada Guabo.

▶ SPC Lisa Schumer (*center*) and SPC Sue Tyler (*right*) of the 612th Engr. Bn. help pour concrete into a wall during the construction of a school at Lajas Adentro.



Mail photo submissions for Sharp Shooters to: **Photo Editor, Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581**. Digital images should be directed to: **[soldiers@belvoir.army.mil](mailto:soldiers@belvoir.army.mil)**. All submissions must include an introductory paragraph and captions.

# ArmyHistory in December

Beyond its role in defense of the nation, the Army and its Soldiers have contributed to medicine, technology, exploration, engineering and science. The milestones listed in this monthly chronology offer only a small glimpse of that proud story of selfless service. It is also your story.

## 1700s

**1775** — MG Richard Montgomery is the first Continental Army general to die in combat, during a failed attack on Quebec the night of Dec. 30-31.

Birthday of cavalry/armor. On Dec. 12 Congress authorizes the first regiment of light dragoons.



## 1776

**1776** — The night of Dec. 25-26, George Washington leads his army across the Delaware River in a surprise attack on the Hessian garrison at Trenton, N.J.

**1777** — Winter at Valley Forge, Pa. By spring, 2,000 Soldiers will die of disease and cold.

## 1800s

**1802** — The Corps of Engineers adopts a new uniform on Dec. 3. One element is a brass button incorporating a bastion, eagle and the Engineer Corps' motto: Essayons, or "Let Us Try."

**1806** — The Red River Expedition's troubles continue as the party is surrounded and robbed by armed Pawnees.

**1817** — On Dec. 23 Soldiers capture Amelia Island, Fla., ridding it of pirates and slave traders.

**1862** — The Army of the Potomac crosses the Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg, Va., on Dec. 13, but suffers a serious defeat at the hands of well-prepared Confederate defenders.



## 1864

The Union armies of MG William Sherman enter Savannah, Ga., on Dec. 21, ending their 300-mile march to the sea from Atlanta.

## 1900s

**1906** — The Department of War directs the first use of metal identification tags, soon nicknamed "dog tags" by Soldiers.

**1911** — A force led by CPT John J. Pershing surrounds a major Moro stronghold on Jolo, in the Philippines, and forces a surrender.

**1918** — The Third Army crosses the Rhine River on Dec. 8 to establish headquarters for administering its occupation zone in Germany.

**1926** — The Army replaces the high "choke" collar uniform blouse with an open-lapel design.



## 1941

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, GEN George Marshall approves plans for a two-million man army of 100 divisions. On Luzon, American and Philippine units withdraw to Bataan.

**1942** — Soldiers and Marines launch a final drive on Guadalcanal, and Japanese forces abandon the island in January 1943.

## 1995

On Dec. 30 engineers from the 1st Armored Div. complete a record-length ribbon bridge over the rain-swollen Sava River in Bosnia, permitting the division to advance.



**1943** — At Fort Benning, Ga., the first black airborne company is formed, later becoming part of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion.

**1944** — A German counterattack on Dec. 16 initiates the month-long Battle of the Bulge. In Burma, the Mars Task Force marches north to join Chinese forces.

**1945** — GEN George S. Patton is injured in an automobile accident near Mannheim, Germany, on Dec. 9 and dies 12 days later.

**1950** — In Korea, Task Force Faith, of the 7th Infantry Div., is destroyed by the Chinese on the east side of the Chosin Reservoir.

**1956** — The last two Army pack-mule units, the 35th Quartermaster Company and Battery A of the 4th Field Artillery Battalion, are inactivated at Fort Carson, Colo. The Army also discontinues the use of carrier pigeons.



## 1956

**1966** — In its first firefight of the war, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment is ambushed near Suoi Cat, South Vietnam, on Dec. 2.

**1976** — The Borman Commission report on the cheating scandal at West Point recommends retention of the cadet honor code and changes in the violation-reporting system.

**1977** — Defense Secretary Clifford Alexander approves women serving in most NCO and officer positions in noncombat units.

**1981** — On Dec. 17 BG James L. Dozier is kidnapped from his apartment in Italy by members of the Italian "Red Brigade" terrorist organization. Italian police and a Delta Force team free him in January.

**1984** — On Dec. 12, 248 men of the 101st Airborne Div. are killed when the DC-8 bringing them home from Sinai peacekeeping duty crashes in Gander, Newfoundland.

**1989** — U.S. forces invade Panama, Dec. 20, overthrowing the government of Manuel Noriega. Wanted on drug charges, Noriega surrenders on Jan. 3, 1990.

## 2000s

**2001** — Three special-forces Soldiers are the first Americans killed in Afghanistan when a B-52 mistakenly bombs their position. Twenty others are wounded.



## 2003

Sadam Hussien is captured Dec. 13 by members of the 4th Inf. Div. near Tikrit, Iraq.



For more about Army history, go to [www.ArmyHistoryFnd.org](http://www.ArmyHistoryFnd.org) and [www.Army.mil/cmh](http://www.Army.mil/cmh).



## Running

### IS IT BOOSTING YOUR READINESS?

MILITARY medical research shows that musculoskeletal injuries are the leading health problem among Soldiers, and are the most significant peacetime threat to medical readiness. The majority of these injuries result from excessive or improperly conducted physical training.

The most common training error across the Army today — from basic combat training to airborne units — is excessive running distance and frequency. Most Soldiers who complain of lower-extremity injuries suffer from an unreasonable volume of ground-impact force without adequate and progressive conditioning or recovery time.

PT-related injuries — especially stress fractures, overuse knee pain and Achilles tendonitis — can be reduced. In a 1994 study, Army researchers showed that a battalion of infantry basic trainees that ran 56 miles during a 12-week training period had 24 percent fewer injuries and improved the two-mile run time compared to a battalion that ran 130 miles over the same time period. Subsequent studies have reinforced this finding.

Fitness professionals and researchers advocate fitness programs based on gradual progression of volume and intensity, precise movement skills, varied musculoskeletal stresses and adequate recovery time with less emphasis on distance running.

Running should still be an important part of some Army PT sessions, but it should be done in lower volume by balancing longer runs with shorter, faster interval training and more adequate recovery between runs. — *U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine*

### Easing the Pain

#### To avoid shinsplints:

- ≡ Don't sidestep the warm up;
- ≡ Strengthen and stretch your calf and shin muscles with weight training;
- ≡ Use soft tracks or grass;
- ≡ Put less stress on your shins by cross training with such activities as swimming and cycling, which continue to build muscle and strength.



## Holidays

### MAKE YOUR OWN

ADD a personal touch to your letters with personalized stamps.

PhotoStamps lets you create your own stamp by uploading color images, choosing colors and borders, then ordering. Twenty 37-cent stamps cost \$16.99 plus shipping.



PhotoStamps at  
[www.photo.stamps.com](http://www.photo.stamps.com)

## Volunteer

### SHARE YOUR WAR EXPERIENCE

THE Department of the Army has initiated a Special Recruiter Assistance Program that offers Soldiers who have served on the front lines the opportunity to convey their experiences to their local communities.

The initiative enables families, friends, local organizations and leaders to hear firsthand accounts of the war. The program is open to enlisted Soldiers stationed in the United States who have served in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom. SRAP participants serve on temporary duty status



for up to 14 days and may claim reimbursement for travel expenses and per diem while on TDY. The TDY may be taken in conjunction with ordinary leave.

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command allocates funding for this initiative and is responsible for managing the program. Requests undergo a screening process that takes about seven days to complete. For additional information about the SRAP, contact the Army Recruiting Command at (502) 626-0448 or 1582.



For information on dangerously loud toys, potential choking, strangulation, projectile or toxic toys, go to [www.pirg.org/toysafety](http://www.pirg.org/toysafety).

For information on a particular toy, safety standards, safe-play guidelines and potential hazards, go to [www.toy-tia.org/vetsday/page.cfm?pg=19](http://www.toy-tia.org/vetsday/page.cfm?pg=19).

For CPSC's toy-safety publication. Go to [www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/toy\\_sfy.html](http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/toy_sfy.html).

### SAFETY TIPS ON TOYS

PLAYING Santa this year? Be sure the toys you purchase won't lead to injuries.

Toy safety is assessed by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, and reports are published by such agencies as the Toy Industry Association. Parents should read package labels and instructions for proper usage and age appropriateness before buying.

When buying toys on the Internet, check to see if the manufacturers comply with U.S. toy regulations. And be sure toys sold at discount or at auction sites have not been recalled by the CPSC as hazardous.

## Internet

### COMMISSARY COUPONS

COMMISSARIES are again accepting computer-generated Internet coupons, though with a couple of requirements to deter fraud.

Internet coupons must have a bar code that store checkouts can scan, and they cannot be for free products. Photocopied or facsimile-generated coupons remain unacceptable at all commissaries.

The Defense Commissary Agency has re-established links to Internet grocery coupon sites.



For grocery coupons go to [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com).

# Outfitting the Warfi

Story By SFC Heatherann Bozeman



“Our goal

▲ MSG Charlotte Brough of Human Resources Command discusses required items of clothing with Savannah A. Hudson, assistant manager of the Fort Belvoir Military Clothing Sales store. Brough retired from active duty in 1999, but has recently been reactivated.

▶ MAJ Steve Lilley, a retiree who has been recently reactivated, searches through the Class A rack for a new uniform.

# ghter



SFC Anthony Joseph

In 1981 Congress chartered military clothing-sales stores so service members could get much-needed equipment more quickly and conveniently. Today, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service manages 192 stores for the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps.

Each AAFES MCSS is actually the final stop in a uniform process that involves several agencies. The process of taking uniforms from initial design to end product starts with an annual uniform board, which defines requirements and recommends changes for the force.

The Army chief of staff approves Army uniform changes. The Program Executive Office-Soldier tests all the materials Soldiers will wear. Specifications are written based on the tests' findings. Approved items are then passed on to the Defense Supply Center, Philadelphia, and AAFES for procurement.

"One of the most common misperceptions is that AAFES owns and controls all issue uniforms. We obtain issue uniforms through military supply channels, which are managed by the Defense Logistics Agency,"

nel and doesn't allow contracting for issue items.

"Our goal remains to provide Soldiers with what they need, and customer service is key," said David C. Lumbley, divisional merchandise manager for MCSS. "AAFES doesn't decide Army supply priorities, the Army does."

The DSCP and AAFES are partners. There is no markup on issue items, so they are sold through MCSS at cost. DSCP adjusts prices each October, and then AAFES implements the price changes.

"All of these agencies are working towards the same goal — to outfit service members with the best-possible product," said Danielson.

AAFES offers enhanced optional items for Soldiers



SFC Anthony Joseph

In the past 10 years, AAFES has contributed \$2.24 billion to the Army and Air Force to spend on quality-of-life improvements ...


Some Soldiers want this sharper look, so we offer it," Lumbley said.

While the enhanced optional items have been modified for comfort, they still meet all military specifications.

Also offered are "Exchange Select" insignia products, which sell for 30 to 60 percent less than name brands.

MCSS associates stay current on uniform policy changes through communication among AAFES, DLA and the services. The strong relationship among the organizations makes it possible to get new issue items quickly.

"MCSS works to get what the customer wants. We can do that if we keep the lines of communication open. And customers really appreciate it when you get something for them," said Gisela Whitenight, the MCSS manager at Fort Gordon, Ga.

AAFES' mission is to provide quality merchandise at uniformly low prices, and to generate earnings to support Army and Air Force morale, welfare and recreation programs. In the past 10 years, AAFES has contributed \$2.24 billion to the Army and Air Force to spend on quality-of-life improvements for service members and their families. 

remains to provide Soldiers with what they need ..."



said MAJ Rachel Danielson, AAFES' Army MCSS program manager.

The Army maintains the standards and regulations that guide AAFES MCSS, requires stores to obtain items through supply chan-

who want a choice in the quality of products they'll wear. Optional items go through the same testing process as issue items do before hitting the shelves.

"Take, for instance, the optional green dress shirt. It's a higher quality, poly-wool blend, compared to the poly-cotton issue shirt.

SFC Heatherann Bozeman is a strategic marketing NCO with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

## Meet the *2005 Poster* Models

Get your Army uniform poster in the next issue of Soldiers.

**T**HE 2005 Army uniform poster, which will appear in the January issue of Soldiers, has been redesigned to include new items and up-to-date information that provides a visual, quick-reference guide to the proper wear and appearance of the Army uniform.

The models for the new poster come from the Fort Hood, Texas-based 4th Infantry Division, and most recently returned from deployment in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Soldiers traveled to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's headquarters in Dallas, Texas, to participate in the poster shoot.

The following individuals served as models:



**SFC Heatherann Bozeman**, AAFES' strategic marketing NCO, coordinated the modeling event and also modeled for the poster.



**AAFES**



**1LT Ashling Ganes** of the 299th Engineer Battalion, deployed to Iraq as a combat engineer. She recalls climbing into the space where Soldiers found Saddam Hussein, and thinking "it was like a coffin, very cramped and desolate."



**1LT Frederick Cashaw** of the 1st Bn., 22nd Infantry Regiment, speaks highly of his unit: "We're ready to go back because it's what we've always trained to do."



**SGT Pedro Miranda** of Company C, 3rd Bn., 66th Armored Regt., remembers when Saddam Hussein was captured. "We felt like we had done what we came to do and I'm proud it was my unit that caught him."



**SPC Bryce Mouchet** of 1st Bn., 26th Armd. Regt., patrolled Sumara as part of his deployment in Iraq. "Our platoon got real close going through the deployment together, and I feel it helped us better accomplish our mission."



The Soldiers chosen to model for the 2005 uniform poster gathered at AAFES' headquarters in Dallas for the photo shoot.



**SPC Elizabeth Nieshell**, a truck driver with the 4th Support Bn., drove in countless convoys during her year in Iraq. "I think it's good to know right off the bat what it's like to be in a wartime situation."



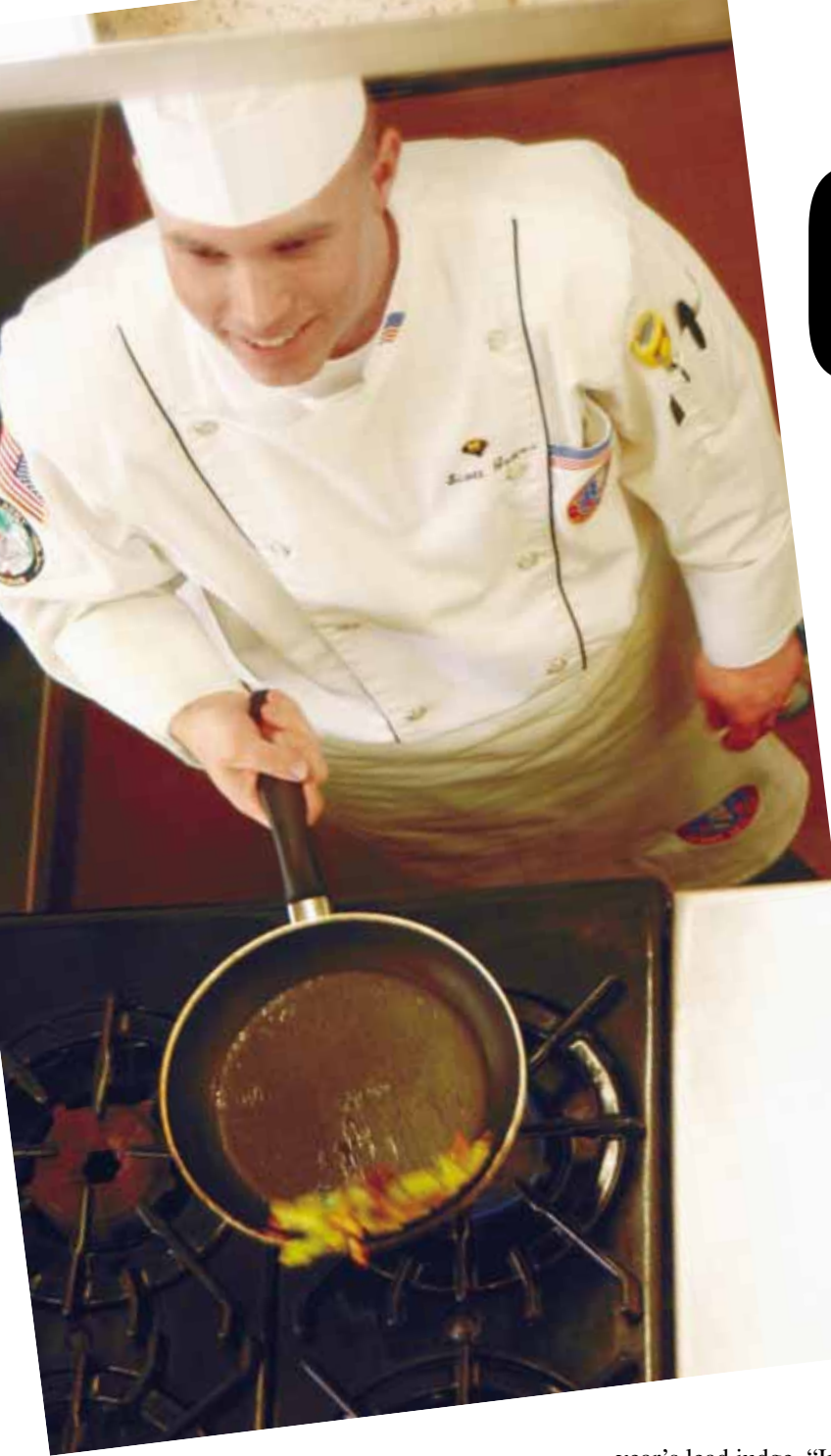
**SPC Guillermo Rodriguez** of the 4th Bn., 42nd Field Artillery Regt., joined the Army to experience the world. Four months after joining he found himself in Iraq, patrolling the same town where Saddam Hussein was captured. "It was actually a relief when we caught Saddam. I am so proud that I served my country in Iraq."



**SPC Benjamin Matthews** of the division's 1st Brigade, collected intelligence in Iraq. "I'll never forget the night Saddam was caught. I had gone on a break and my buddy just started yelling 'We got Saddam.'"



**PV2 Donald Ludwick**, also of the 4th Bn., 42nd FA, was chosen for the poster because he was his battalion's most recent Soldier of the month. "The other Soldiers have a lot of real combat experience, but I know I can hold my own, too. I haven't deployed yet, but I'm ready."



# Cooking Up the *very* Best

Story and Photo by SPC Jason Cutshaw


**T**HE U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition starts March 5 at Fort Lee, Va. As in past competitions in the 30-year history of the event, the Army's top chefs will compete in such categories as the senior and junior chef of the year. A field-cooking competition, ice carving and a culinary knowledge bowl will round out the competition.

The 2004 competition, sponsored by the Army Center of Excellence, Subsistence, hosted 11 teams.

The competitors represent various levels of experience, and the competition is a learning process, said Roland Schaeffer, last

year's lead judge. "In competitions like this you see those who have competed numerous times, as well as people who have never competed."

Schaeffer, who has judged the competitions at Fort Lee for 15 years, began his culinary career at 14 by working at his father's restaurant in Germany.

"Even those who have competed many times can still fine-tune their cooking through the critiques we give them," Schaeffer said. "The ones who have never competed can look at the seasoned competitors and learn from them. No matter how many times they've been here, there's always room for improvement." 

SPC Jason Cutshaw works at the Fort Lee Public Affairs Office.

SPC Scott Graves, a member of the 2004 U.S. Army, Europe, culinary-arts team, stir-fries vegetables during the competition. Graves was named the 2004 Senior Chef of the Year.



# SOLDIERS

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*Toward the Future Force*, Feb 3. Army Chief of Staff GEN Peter J. Schoomaker outlines his and other senior leaders' focus areas in developing tomorrow's Army.  
*Heavyweight Humvees*, May 14. Reinforced steel plating and bullet-resistant windows are among the upgrades being added to the up-armored M-1114 Humvee.  
*On the Cutting Edge of Technology*, Oct 12. The Army Materiel Command's engineers and scientists focus on getting the right technologies to the Soldiers who need them.  
*Faster Equipping of U.S. Forces*, Oct 20. An office at Fort Belvoir, Va., helps to quickly get critical systems and technologies into the field.  
*The Soldier as a System*, Oct 34. New technologies have helped spur the most significant transformation of Soldiers in 50 years.  
*More Than a Shadow*, Nov 34. The Shadow looks like a radio-controlled airplane, takes off like a Roman candle and has controls similar to those of a video game.

##### Army Campaign Plan

*Change is Our Hallmark*, Jun 8. SMA Kenneth O. Preston talks about the nature of the Army's ongoing transformation.  
*From Concept to Combat*, Jun 12. The changes inherent in the Army's transformation go much deeper than just new weapons.  
*Force Stabilization*, Jun 20. Stability and predictability — along with better unit cohesion and improved training — are the goals of the Force-Stabilization effort.  
*Brownlee: Where We Stand*, Oct 8. Acting Secretary of the Army R.L. Brownlee talks about war, retention

issues and the quality of today's Soldiers.

##### The Army in Europe

*Changes in Europe*, Apr 38. The end of the Cold War and the beginning of the war on terror have meant big changes for U.S. forces in Europe.  
*Building Up Graf*, Apr 45. "New" and "better" are the keywords at Grafenwöhr Training Area in Germany.  
*Europe's Musical Ambassadors*, Dec 12. The 120 Soldiers of the U.S. Army, Europe, Band and Chorus represent the Army's largest musical organization outside the United States.  
*A New Way to Train*, Dec 20. U.S. Army, Europe, Soldiers trained in Bulgaria.

##### The Army in Korea

*Warriors in the Line of Fire*, Mar 8. The line between peace and war is razor-thin for the Soldiers who live within range of 100,000 artillery tubes and a million enemy troops.  
*On the Road*, Mar 13. Mobility for U.S. forces can be a challenge on Korea's crowded roads.  
*Duty on the DMZ*, Mar 15. Soldiers help keep the tenuous peace along the 151-mile Korean Demilitarized Zone.

##### Caring for Our Own

*On the Frontlines of Care*, Aug 18. Staffers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., are providing world-class care to wounded and injured Soldiers.  
*The Last Ocularist*, Aug 24. Making artificial eyes is both an art and a science for this last-of-a-kind craftsman.  
*Amputees Battle Back*, Aug 27. Advanced prosthetics and caring medical professionals add up to a better life for wounded Soldiers.  
*Each One a Hero*, Aug 30. Heroes walk the hallways at the Army's burn center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.  
*Miracles on a Mountainside*, Oct 46. An innovative program brought together 350 severely disabled vets for a new type of rehab.  
*To Soldiers, From the Heart*, Dec 24. All over the country, Americans are working to say "thank you" to deployed service members.

##### Community Outreach

*Fast Track Recruiting*, Feb 46. Recruiting new Soldiers can be a challenge, so the Army Accessions Command sought help from America's fastest-growing sport.  
*Building Tribal Ties*, Apr 16. Two hundred years after the Lewis and Clark expedition, the Army is helping American Indians preserve their heritage.  
*The Army's Bull Riders*, Jul 44. A firm grip and iron determination are key when your mount of choice doesn't want to be ridden.

##### Competitions

*Warfighter Challenge*, Feb 20. Competing teams gathered at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., for the annual Warfighter Challenge.  
*Best Ranger Challenge*, Aug 8. Nineteen teams journeyed to Fort Benning, Ga., for three days of grueling competition.  
*Going For Olympic Gold*, Aug 12. At least 13 Soldiers and three Soldier-coaches will serve Team USA at the 2004 Olympics in Athens.  
*Cooking Up the Very Best*, Dec 46. The U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition serves up the best Soldier-chefs.

##### Family and Quality-of-Life Issues

*Supporting Adoptive Parents*, Aug 42. Knowledge, care and support are the hallmarks of the Adoption Support Group at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.  
*Military Housing, Civilian Style*, Oct 24. The Residential Communities Initiative program is helping provide Soldiers and their families with newer, more comfortable on-post housing.

##### Focus on People

*Former First Sergeant Guides Soldiers to Success*, Feb 48.  
*A Sense of Duty and Community*, Mar 48.  
*Collecting a Piece of the Past*, Apr 48.  
*Officer Commissions Brother*, May 48.  
*The Army's Top Enlisted Soldier*, Jun 30. SMA Kenneth O. Preston, the 13th sergeant major of the Army, talks about Soldiers and the Army's future.  
*AAFES Angel*, Jun 47.  
*Heroes Meet*, Jun 47.  
*Selfless Service*, Jun 48.  
*Special Delivery*, Jun 48.  
*Salsa Band Hot on Tradition*, Jul 48.  
*Shoes for Afghanistan*, Aug 48.  
*Seeing Stars*, Sep 48.  
*Keeping History Alive*, Oct 48.  
*First in a Long Time*, Nov 48.

##### History and Tradition

*Army History*; a continuing department appearing every month except January and August.  
*America's Sacred Shrine*, May 8. Arlington National Cemetery is a shrine to those who have given their lives for the nation and is a final resting place for more than 285,000 people.  
*America's Flag*, Jun 32. An ongoing restoration effort will ensure that the original "Star-Spangled Banner" continues to wave.  
*Reliving an Expedition*, Jun 34. A member of the Montana Army National Guard is preparing to retrace the steps of Lewis and Clark.  
*Honoring Their Sacrifice*, Jun 40. The new National World War II Memorial honors military and civilian veterans of the conflict.  
*Back to Normandy*, Sep 44. Active-duty Soldiers and veterans journey to France to commemorate "The Longest Day."

*Requiem for Mount Vernon*, Dec 28. The Army says farewell to an historic chapel.

##### Legal Forum

*When Your Car is a Lemon*, Feb 44.  
*Soldier Re-employment Rights*, Sep 38.  
*Internet Buyer Beware*, Oct 42.

##### Missions

*Third Army: Mission-Ready*, Mar 20. The Army's only operational warfighting headquarters is state of the art and battle tested.  
*Fast Fielding for Soldier Systems*, Mar 42. The Army's Program Executive Office-Soldier is responsible for nearly everything Soldiers wear and carry in a tactical environment.  
*Guarding MFO Skies*, May 28. The venerable UH-1H is a vital part of the Multinational Force and Observers in Sinai, Egypt.  
*Managing Major Movements*, May 44. The Surface Deployment and Distribution Command — formerly the Military Traffic Management Command — is implementing the largest movement of American military equipment since World War II.  
*Captured Enemy Ammunition*, Jun 26. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is helping to destroy thousands of tons of Iraqi munitions.  
*Backing the MP Force*, Aug 16. Some 200 National Guard artillerymen are training to serve as MPs as part of the war on terrorism.  
*The Army's Nerve Center*, Sep 17. The Army Operations Center is the conduit that connects field commanders with senior leaders.  
*Putting the Army Ashore*, Sep 20. Soldier-mariners of the 7th Transportation Group demonstrated a vital logistics capability during a recent exercise at Fort Story, Va.  
*The Army's Police*, Nov 14. Skilled at switching between roles in public order and war, military police have become leading players in the Army's war on terrorism.  
*Inside Cheyenne Mountain*, Nov 44. From outer space to local skies, no aircraft goes unchecked by the trackers at Cheyenne Mountain.  
*Hail to the Chief*, Dec 8. Soldiers play a vital role in the inauguration of the nation's presidents.  
**Moving an Army at War**  
*Troops In, Troops Out*, Jul 8. Soldiers were on the move worldwide as the Army undertook the largest troop movement in 60 years.  
*Deploying the "Big Red One"*, Jul 14. Some 12,000 members of the 1st Infantry Division deployed from Germany to Iraq.  
*"All-American" Homecoming*, Jul 16. Soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division came home to a rousing welcome.  
*Welcoming Soldiers Home*, Jul 20. At posts throughout the Army, friends and family members celebrated their warriors' return.

*Civil Affairs Soldiers Come Home*, Jul 22. When these reserve-component Soldiers redeployed, they came home from around the world.

### Moving the Army to Victory

*The Army Ships Out*, Jul 24. The Surface Deployment and Distribution Command managed the Army's mass movement.

*USAREUR's Movers*, Jul 26. Getting units and materiel from Europe to Iraq took planning, perseverance and professionalism.

*Keeping Up the Pace*, Jul 30. Keeping the Army moving is the 1192nd Transportation Terminal Brigade's specialty.

### National Guard and Reserves

*Guarding the Golden Gate*, Mar 24. National Guard Soldiers are helping protect a national icon from the threat of terrorist attack.

*Proud Year for the Guard*, Mar 30. The National Guard went to war in 2003 as it has not done in more than 50 years, while still serving in its traditional homeland roles.

*Preparing for Catastrophe*, Dec 30. Teams of Army and Air Guard members are training to react to terrorist threats against the homeland.

*Retaining Guard Soldiers*, Dec 32. New programs help the Guard keep valuable Soldiers.

### Off Duty

*Fun and Games from MWR*, Mar 46. This was a banner year for special events, cutting-edge promotions and package deals throughout the Army. *Staying Safe on 2 Wheels*, Aug 46. Freedom is at your fingertips on a motorcycle — but only if you ride safely.

*The Heart of a Soldier*, Sep 24. Singers, dancers and musicians — all Soldiers — stage a spectacular entertainment event.

*First-Class in Bavaria*, Sep 28. Soldiers, their families and DOD civilians have a new reason to spend vacation time in beautiful southern Germany.

*The Army's Paradise in Florida*, Sep 32. The southern United States is also a vacation possibility for those whose tastes run more to sand, sun and ocean.

*The Charm of the Cinque Terre*, Oct 44. Five small villages on the Italian coast offer a dazzling variety of recreation opportunities.

### Road to the Olympics

*CPT Anita Allen*, modern pentathlon, Feb back cover.

*SSG Basheer Abdullah*, boxing coach, Mar back cover.

*SSG Torence Daniels*, boxer, Apr back cover.

*PFC Tina George*, wrestling, May back cover.

*SGT Dremiel Byers*, wrestling, Jun back cover.

*1Lt Chad Senior*, modern pentathlon, Jul back cover.

### Schools and Training

*A School for Peace and Prosperity*, Feb 26. Lessons learned at the George C. Marshall Center have a positive impact on the security and economic development of the European community.

*A Meeting of the Minds*, Feb 32. Marshall Center conferences focus

on lawmakers, think-tanks and universities specializing in national defense and nongovernmental organizations.

*Lifesaving Maintenance*, Mar 18. Maintaining medical equipment isn't just about hardware, it's also about patient safety.

*Training Arabic Linguists*, May 18. In Monterey, Calif., the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center is teaching service members one of the world's most challenging tongues.

*Back to the Basics*, May 24. At Fort Jackson, S.C., experienced Soldiers go back to school to earn the drill sergeant's campaign hat.

*Liberty City*, Sep 10. Innovative training at Fort Sill, Okla., is helping Soldiers prepare for urban combat.

*Training Troops for Deployment*, Oct 28. Soldiers of the Army Reserve's 75th Div. are helping ensure that deploying units are ready for war.

*Blast Detectives*, Nov 20. Students at Fort A.P. Hill, Va., learn techniques of post-blast investigation.

*Masters on the Battlefield*, Nov 24. The Sapper Leader Course blends engineering and light-infantry skills to give Soldiers the edge on the battlefield.

*Earning the EIB*, Nov 30. It's just a two-by-three-inch piece of cloth, but some Soldiers are willing to shed blood, sweat and tears to get it.

### Soldier Issues

*2004 Pay Chart*, Feb 24.

*Cutting Down on Casualties*, Apr 8. Acting Secretary of the Army R.L. Brownlee has directed the creation of a task force intended to decrease by 50 percent the number of accidental deaths in the Army.

*Army One Source*, Apr 22. Army One Source is your round-the-clock link to valuable Army-specific information.

*Outfitting the Warfighter*, Dec 42. AAFES military clothing sales stores ensure that service members get the gear they need.

### War on Terror

*A Respite from War*, Feb 10. Soldiers supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom are seeing improvements in their quality of life.

*Staying Mission-Ready*, Feb 14. Maintaining a high level of readiness is critical for Operation Iraqi Freedom commanders.

*Troop Update*, Feb 19. The latest deployments to Iraq are intended to reduce the number of Soldiers in the region and speed the turnover of authority to the Iraqi people.

*Stryker Soldiers in Action*, Apr 24. The Army's Stryker wheeled combat vehicle has made its combat debut, patrolling the mean streets of Iraq.

*Paratroopers on Patrol*, Apr 27. For paratroopers of the Italy-based 173rd Airborne Brigade, duty in Iraq can be lonely, dangerous and challenging.

*An Uncommon Mission*, Apr 29. In Afghanistan to help train the Afghan National Army, Army Reserve Soldiers are easing the plight of the Afghan people.

*Honoring the Fallen*, Jul 46. An Iraqi artist helps craft a memorial to Americans who died while helping liberate his nation.

*War on Terror Review*, Sep 4. We take a look at some of the people involved

in the war on terror from September 2003 to July 2004.

*First Line of Defense*, Sep 14. U.S. Northern Command's focus is on deterring, preventing, defeating and mitigating aggression or threats against the United States.

*Righting the Wrongs of Abu Ghraib*, Nov 8. Long before news of the abuses at Abu Ghraib broke, the Army was initiating changes to address the issues associated with detainee operations.

*Afghan Mortar Mission*, Dec 34. A mortar team provides on-call fire support in the hills of Afghanistan.

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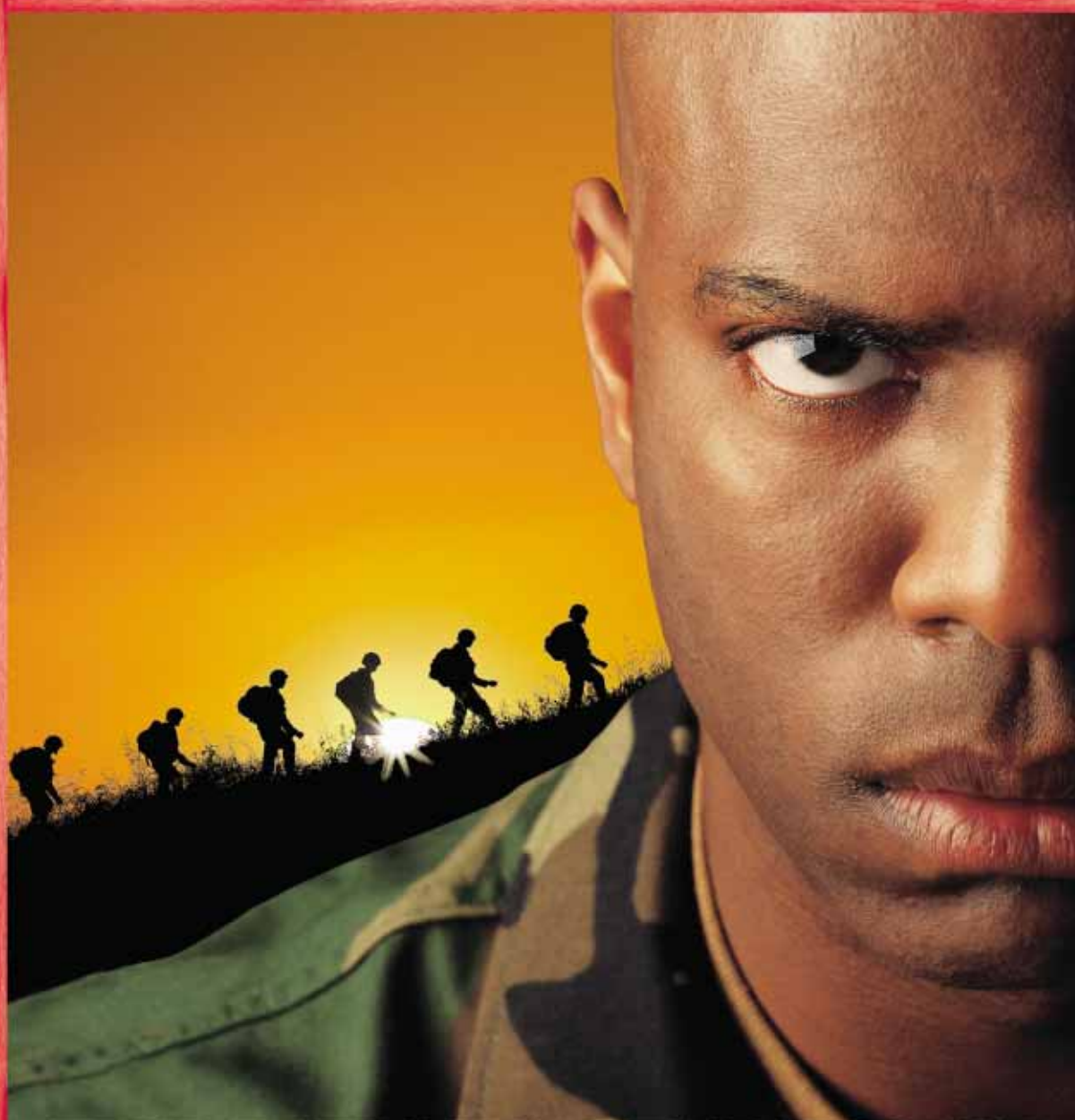
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